

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING THE MONTANA SCIENCE COUNCIL AND
5 PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES."

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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9 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Montana science council -- purpose.** (1) There is a Montana science
10 council. The council is allocated to the state board of education for administrative purposes only, as provided in
11 2-15-121.

12 (2) The purpose of the Montana science council is to recognize:

13 (a) the increasing importance of science in the lives of the citizens of Montana;

14 (b) the need to provide opportunity for our young people to participate in the growth of science and to
15 contribute to the understanding of science for the people of our state and nation; and

16 (c) the growing significance of science as an element of our daily life in Montana.

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18 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Membership of council -- appointment.** The Montana science council
19 consists of 15 members appointed by the governor, by and with the consent of the senate. Insofar as possible,
20 the governor shall appoint members from the various geographical areas of the state who have a keen interest
21 in one or more areas of the sciences and a willingness to devote time and effort in the public interest. Special
22 consideration must be given to appointment of scientists from the university of Montana and Montana state
23 university, K-12 science teachers, and scientists working for state or federal agencies or the private sector.

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25 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Council officers -- term -- compensation.** The term of office of each
26 member of the Montana science council is 5 years. The governor shall designate a presiding officer and a vice
27 presiding officer from the members of the council to serve in those capacities at the pleasure of the governor. The
28 presiding officer is the chief executive officer of the council. Each vacancy must be filled for the balance of the
29 unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. The members of the council must be
30 compensated and receive travel expenses as provided for in 2-15-124.

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2 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Executive committee.** The Montana science council may select an
3 executive committee of five members, including the presiding officer and vice presiding officer, and delegate to
4 the committee functions in aid of the efficient administration of the affairs of the council that the council considers
5 advisable.

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7 **NEW SECTION. Section 5. Council duties.** The Montana science council shall:
8 (1) encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of science and stimulate public interest
9 and participation in science;
10 (2) cooperate with public and private institutions engaged within the state in scientific activities, including
11 but not limited to biological, computer, mathematical, physical, and social sciences, and make recommendations
12 concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation in and appreciation of science to meet the legitimate
13 needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the state;
14 (3) foster public interest in science in Montana and in its physical and natural resources;
15 (4) encourage and assist freedom of scientific inquiry essential for the well-being of the people of
16 Montana and its resources;
17 (5) nominate up to six individuals each July for an annual governor's science award and provide the list
18 of nominees to the governor.

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20 **NEW SECTION. Section 6. Gifts and donations.** The Montana science council may acquire, accept,
21 receive, dispose of, and administer in the name of the council any gifts, donations, properties, securities,
22 bequests, and legacies that may be made to it. Money received by gift, donation, bequest, or legacy, unless
23 otherwise provided by the donor, must be deposited in an account in the state special revenue fund and must
24 be used for the general operation of the council and as provided in [section 8]. The council is the official agency
25 of the state to receive and disburse any funds made available by the national science foundation.

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 7. Authorization for council to enter certain contracts.** The Montana
28 science council may contract with individuals, organizations, and institutions for services or cooperative
29 endeavors furthering the objectives of the council's programs.

NEW SECTION. **Section 8. Financing of council.** The Montana science council may engage in fundraising drives and public contribution campaigns that will contribute to its continued development and support. All revenue received in this manner must be deposited in the account described in [section 6] and may not be used for any purposes other than the improvement, development, and operation and programs of the council.

NEW SECTION. Section 9. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 8] are intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 2, part 1, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 2, part 1, apply to [sections 1 through 8].

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